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In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

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LEE AND JACKSON

General Robert E. Lee and Thomas J. (Stonewall) Jackson, Confederate heroes, were born on January 19th and 21st, respectively, although not in the same year. Their birthday anniversaries, especially Lee's, are observed in a number of states.

The hero of a lost cause generally misses his chance of immortality because of the old adage that "might makes right" relegates his cause to a losing effort, a repressed one. Occasionally, an individual, or more than one individual, stands out above the ordinary stress and strain of his times, and his reputation survives almost untarnished.

In the case of both Lee and, Jackson, there are few people today who doubt that they possessed a strength of their convictions not surpassed by their fellowship. In addition, they had an almost impossible task to perform, and they attempted to perform it courageously, to the end.

In the case of Lee, he hoped to the last the Union would not divide. He had freed his own slaves and had turned down an offer to command the Union Armies prior to the beginning of the war. He believed sincerely that his first duty lay with his state.

As a military leader, Lee had no peer in American history. Nor has he any today. Nor has Stonewall Jackson, who was killed by his own troops, through error, in 1863. One reason why the United States has not produced military leaders who have outshone these two Confederate generals is the fact that the United States has never since been outnumbered in a war or faced the odds that the Confederate Armies faced in 1861-65.

Be that as it may, the military achievements of both Lee and Jackson are admired, and studied, the world over today. But, more than that, their personal lives are examples of devotion to duty, honor, and courage, and the last measure of sacrifice.

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38,500 SCRATCHED

The National Safety Council recently estimated that 38,500 persons were killed in 1955. This was a tentative estimate and official figures may prove the total to be even higher.

The estimate of dead in 1954 was 36,000.

In other words, the traffic death toll jumped several thousands in 1955. It approached the all-time record of 39,969 and official figures may show that it is closer to that figure than tentative compilations indicate.

In the Korean War, 33,417 U. S. soldiers, sailors, marines and airmen were killed in over three years of fighting. Yet the total does not equal the number killed on the highways and streets of the United States in 1955 alone.

Unless the trend is changed, 1956 is sure to be a record year, and deaths recorded on our highways and in the cities this year will exceed the all-time record of 1941, and top the 40,000 figure.

If the increase continues its present pace, it will only be about five years before we are killing about 1,000 Americans a week in traffic accidents. These figures are a pretty convincing argument in behalf of safer streets and highways, and more effective law enforcement.

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FBI COMES THROUGH

The recent announcement by the Federal Bureau of Investigation, that it had solved the nation's bigest cash robbery, undoubtedly sent a chill down the spines of many crooks and would-be crooks.

The Federal Bureau of Investigation has earned a reputation something akin to that of Scotland Yard, and the solving of the famous Brink's robbery in Boston adds a little more luster to its already brilliant record.

Although two of the eleven men who were reportedly involved are still at large, as this is written, the rounding up of the other nine, one of whom is now dead, and the solving of the crime, should discourage those who have visions of pulling off robberies.

The Brinks job netted the thieves $1,218,211. It took place in 1950, and has been the subject of much rumor ever since. The solution of the case comes after years of steady investigation and hard work. This sustained major effort is an example of the labors the FBI will undergo to crack one case.

It is why crime does not pay when the FBI gets involved.

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HALF-DAY SCHOOLS

The National Education Association says that almost a million American youngsters are being forced to attend half-day school sessions because of a shortage of classrooms.

The NEA estimated there are 31,238,863 youths in U. S. public schools today, an increase of 1,272,811 over the last school year. The greatest shortage of facilities exists in the elementary schools in urban areas, the NEA says.

In addition, a shortage of facilities in secondary schools is now in evidence in at least 44 of the states, according to a secent NEA survey.

While there are some who claim that NEA figures are alarmist, and that the present rate of school construction is actually encouraging, the final determination of the question whether school facilities are ivadequate lies in the answer to the contention that hundreds of thousands of American boys and girls are attending half-day schools.

Half-day schools are a poor investment in the future. They represent a waste of resources, human resources. They constitute a reflection on the community in which they are operated. Unless the NEA figures can be proven inaccurate, one must conclude there is an urgent need for school construction.

We favor local school control and local building programs. The responsibility of every American community is clear, to provide decent schools for the youngsters of the community. If this is done, then the need for outside aid will be eliminated.

But NEA figures, and sentiment in this and other organizations, and in some areas of the country, is increasingly devoted to the proposition of federal aid for schools. President Eisenhower has proposed that the federal government loan money to finance the construction of schools.

If federal aid to education is voted, it will be as a result of inaction on the part of communities to provide adequate schools. In many areas of the country, especially in some southern states, like South Carolina, tremendous school building programs are underway, and the need for federal aid has diminished in recent years.

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The test of friendship comes when the dollar intervenes.

RIGHT FERTILIZER ON PLANT BEDS

Blacksburg, Va.- Use of the right kinds and proper amounts of fertilizer is the first step in producing a good crop of tobacco, says G. R. Mathews, Associate Extension Agronomist, Virginia Polytechnic Institute at Blacksburg.

"There are two analyses of plant bed fertilizer recommended in Virginia, 4-9-3 and 6-12-4," he says. "Fertilizer formulated for use on tobacco plant beds should be low in chlorine. Excessive amounts of chlorine may cause many of the sm. l seedlings to die, and the leaves of larger plants to become thickened and 'cupped' upward around the edges.

"In the flue-cured area a general recommendation is to use from one to two pounds of 4-9-3 per square yard. In the fire-cured and sun-cured areas about one pound per square yard on the heavier soils is generally adequate. In the burley area of Southwest Virginia, one-half to one pound per square yard is about right. When the 6-12-4 is used, apply one-third less than when using the 4-9-3.

"Use a method of application that will give uniform distribution of the fertilizer. When application is made by hand, it is a good idea to divide the fertilizer in two parts and make two applications in opposite directions. It should be well-mixed in the first three or four inches of soil. Be sure to leave this surface of the bed level and smooth. This will prevent 'puddling' of fertilizer and seed."

Anyone can figure out his own cost of living — just take all you earn and add twenty per cent. -U. S. Coast Guard News, Cuurtis Bay, Md.

Farmers Buying or Selling Land Should Check With ASC Office

Persons who buy or sell farmland for which an acreage allotment has been established, have a definite responsibility for becoming familiar with the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture governing combination and division of allotments and for advising county ASC committee when purchases or sales have been made, according to W. T. Powers, Administrative officer for the ASC State Committee.

Powers further pointed out that county ASC committees are not in a position to know of all land sales and purchases and, therefore, cannot make a change in the acreage allotments for the land involved until a request for a division or combination is filed by the interested producers. The Secretary's regulations and instructions which are issued by the Department of Agriculture to carry out these regulations contain specific provisions governing the manner in which allotments may be divided or combined. County ASC committees must follow these regulations in all cases. Many farmers have had some sad experiences in the past because they did not determine in advance how the acreage allotments would be divided before they bought or sold land covered by the allotments.

Powers advised that both the buyer and seller have a responsibility of notifying the county ASC office as soon as possible after land is sold and of requesting the county committee to make a division of the allotments for the farm if only a part of the farm was sold. If the purchases owns other land and wishes to combine the newly purchased land with the other land, he must file a request with the county committee for the combination. The county committee, according to Powers, may not approve a combination unless the tracts are operated in the manner prescribed by the Secretary's regulations and instructions.

Powers further urged that lawyers or real estate dealers who are handling the sale or purchase of farm land or who are advising farmers in conection with such transactions become familiar with the regulations before advising their clients or completing any transactions involving the allotments.

STAMP MAP

San Antonio, Texas.- The Sam Pedro library recently received a map of the United States made entirely of stamps. The map, made by Frederick A. Marsh, a postoffice clerk, contains more than 100 commemorative stamps of historic events and famous men.

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NOTE: Hubby will probably use words like "production line efficiency" and "good investment." But you know it's just common sense. So, before next washday, ask your Electric Appliance dealer how easy it is to own—and how little it costs to use—a complete Electric Laundry.

VEPCO

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Preparations Underway For Jamestown Festival in 1957

Jamestown, Va.- Full-scale replicas of the three ships that brought Captain John Smith and the 103 first permanent English settlers to the New World in 1607 and ride in the James River here during the year-long celebration of the Jamestown colony's 350th anniversary in 1957.

And nearby, ashore, will be full-scale reconstructions of log-palisaded James Fort of 1607, which enclosed the colonists' early town, and their "glasshouse" of 1608, where they manufactured glass and began what is believed to be English America's first skilled industrial enterprise.

The celebration is called the Jamestown Festival of 1957. Plans for the Festival have been jointly announced by a State commission appointed by Governor Thomas B. Stanley and the Virginia legislature and by a Federal commission named by President Eisenhower and Congress.

An estimated $23,000,000 in funds from all sources is being spent to date in the area on preparations for the observance a year from now.

The first of the three ships, the 100-ton "Susan Constant," is being built at a West Norfolk, Va., marine railway. Visitors will be able to board her in 1957. Clearing near Jamestown for the fort with its thatched houses has begun, and work on the glass factory in the same area is well under way. The modern glass industry and its workers have raised $100,000 to reconstruct the "glasshouse," and the National Park Service, which owns the site, is supervising the work. Glass-blowers in seventh century costume will turn out souvenirs from glass fused in replicas of the original, boulder-made furnaces.

The Festival will center around Jamestown, the colonists' continuous capital until 1698; Williamsburg, their second capital, restored by John D. Rockefeller, Jr.; Yorktown, the picturesque little port, where American independence was assured by Washington's victory over Cornwallis in 1781.

Beginning in 1957, the three historic sites will be connected by the scenic, 23-mile Colonial Parkway, which now links Yorktown and Williamsburg and soon will link Williamsburg and Jamestown. The National Park Service is spending an estimated $8,500,000 for this and other permanent improvements in the area.

The year 1957 will mark the 175th anniversary of the provisional Treaty of Paris in 1782 when the great powers recognized the sovereignty of the United States. Thus, a year hence, this country will at last have been a nation as long as, prior to 1782, it was a colony. This is one aim of the observance.

The Festival will be State-wide, as well as year-long. Events in the realm of drama, pageantry, restoration, music and art will be held during the year in dozens of Virginia communities.

But the height of the Festival will take place in the months of fine weather beginning about April 1. There will be a series of pageantry-filled commemorative days between April 26, anniversary of the colonists' landfall at Cape Henry in 1607, and November 30,anniversary of the recognition of American independence in 1782.

Jamestown was the first successful overseas settleemnt from England, preceding the colony at Bermuda by two years. Since the world community of English - speaking peoples germinated at Jamestown, the observance already is attracting the attention of the government and the public in the British Isles.

It is hoped that a special ceremony can be held in England to commemorate the departure of the first colonists from Blackwall on December 20, 1606. This would be a prelude to the opening of the celebration in 1957.

The President of the United States, the Queen of England and other dignataries are to be invited to preside over special events. The Protestant Episcopal Church of the United States voted at its last general convention, in Honolulu, to extend the invitation to the Archbishop of Canterbury and the Bishop of London.

The English prelates would attend the Cape Henry anniversary celebration (April 26) in the Norfolk-Virginia Beach area where the colonists, aboard ship, opened the sealed box that revealed the names of their councilors and where, ashore, they set up a rude cross and held services.

Other special events include the Old Point Comfort celebration (April) at the site of the oldest continuously fortified place in English America, the Hampton Roads celebration (May 2) commemorating the colonists' landing at Newport News, the Jamestown Settlemen celebration (May 13) and the anniversary of the first legislative assembly in America, at Jamestown (July 30).

The State of Virginia is spending $2,000,000 on roads and other permanent improvements, and an additional $1,000,000 is being asked of the current legislature.

The National Park Service, entrusted with preservation of Jamestown and Yorktown, is spending nearly $1,000,000 to construct new visitor centers at Jamestown and Yorktown, where dioramas and exhibitions built around the million or more artifacts unearthed in the area will tell the story of these historic sites.

Rockefeller's Colonial Williamsburg, Inc., is spending $12,000,000 to build a new motor hotel and visitor center with two theatres that will show "three-dimensional" interpretive films, to complete new restorations, and to build a new gallery to house the Abby Aldrich Rockefeller folk art collection.

The College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, second only to Harvard in age, will offer exhibits depicting the heritage of freemen's rights and civilization from England, possibly in its new $1,000,000 Phi Beta Kappa Memorial Auditorium, which wil be completed by 1957.

Appearance

"Are you a college man?"

"No, I lost my hat, and I forgot to have my suit pressed."

FARMERS UNION CONVENTION IN FEB.

Richmond,- Congressman Harold D. Cooley (D.-N. C.), chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, and National Farmers Union President James G. Patton will head the list of speakers for the second convention of the Virginia Farmers Union here February 8, 9, and 10.

Patton will address the convention banquet on Wednesday evening, February 8, and Cooley will speak to the group on Thursday morning.

Cooley is known as a strong backer of firm price supports. He played a key role in getting a bill to restore 90 per cent supports on the basic crops through the House of Representatives last year.

The bill is under consideration in the Senate this session.

Patton, who has been president of Farmers Union since 1940, is regarded by many Wasihngton observers as foremost among farm leaders in personal influence in Congress, though the Farmers Union is third in size among the farm organizations.

Several other prominent speakers are being engaged for the convention, Farmers Union President, John B. Vance reported.

There are 300 delegates eligible to vote in the convention, but the total attendance is expected to far exceed that figure. All Farmers Union members and their guests have been invited to attend the sessions, Vance said.

FIREMAN TURNS IN FALSE ALARM

Baltimore, Md.- Harry Daffin, 33-year-old volunteer fireman, was held in $100 bail for a hearing at a police station on a charge of telephoning a false alarm on New Year's Eve.

Kirk Douglas plans to produce and star in "The Viking."

SELECTIVE SERVICE ISSUES REGULATION ON READY RESERVE

New Selective Service Regulations to provide for selection for enlistment in the Ready Reserve of persons with critical skills have been published, it was disclosed today by Captain T. W. White, State Director of Selective Service for Virginia.

The new Regulations are incorporated in Executive Orders issued by the President in accordance with provisions of amendments to the Armed Forces Reserve Act of 1952 enacted by the Congress last summer. Captain White explained that the other Executive Orders, which in no way affects Selective Service Regulations has to do with the screening of the Ready Reserve.

Under provisions of the order, the President prescribes means by which persons with critical skills and who are engaged in civilian occupations in critical defense - supporting industry or in research activity affecting national defense, may enlist in units of the Ready Reserve.

The State Director explained that persons enlisting under this provision of the law must join a unit of the Ready Reserve for eight years. Each enlistee must perform an initial period from three to six months of active duty training and must satisfactorily perform all prescribed training duty during the remainder of the eight-year period. Persons so enlisted may, under certain conditions, be relieved of training duty requirements, but may not be relieved of the requirement that they perform the three to six months' active duty training.

The State Director pointed out that a person so enlisted shall be deferred from induction so long as he continues to serve satisfactorily, and upon completing the eight-year enlistment, he shall become exempt from further liability for induction except in the event of emergency.

It was explained that, in selecting applicants for this program, the local board will be guided by the current list of critical occupations issued by the Secretary of Labor, and the current list of essential activities issued by the Secretary of Commerce, as modified from time to time by the Office of Defense Mobilization after consultation with the Secretary of Defense.

To be selected for this program, the State Director explained, the registrant must make application to his local board. Normally, the registrant who is selected must enlist in the proper Ready Reserve within 30 days after his notification of selection is mailed.

The Executive Order on the screening of the Ready Reserve, Captain White explained, is designed to assure that the Ready Reserve will be immediately callable with minimum losses in the event of mobilization.

Cook Books AND CHECK BOOKS

A cook book helps the thrifty housewife to transform odds and ends of food into tasty dishes. A check book, through the record it provides, helps in the financial management of the family's funds.

Yes, in most homes, the check book is just as important as the cook book—or more so. You are invited to carry your Checking Account at this bank.

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